

MARINE SAFETY BULLETIN

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Set Port Condition WHISKEY

In preparation for Hurricane Dennis, Marine Safety Office New Orleans has set Port Condition WHISKEY in accordance with the Maritime Hurricane Contingency Port Plan (MHCPP). Port Condition WHISKEY is set when gale force winds are predicted to arrive at the Southwest Pass Entrance Sea Buoy within 72 hours. (You may review the MHCPP online at <http://www.uscg.mil/d8/mso/nola/>)

The COTP will make notifications as soon as waterway and bridge closures become apparent.

All vessels entering and departing the COTP Zone New Orleans are reminded to update their NOA with any changes to their arrival or departure information. (33 CFR 160.208, 33 CFR 160.212)

The COTP has modified the specific actions outlined in the MHCPP. The following precautionary measures are provided for your consideration. All vessels and facilities operating below the Huey P. Long Bridge are strongly urged to implement these measures:

- Secure missile hazards and clear nonessential equipment and loose gear.
- Secure/remove hazardous materials or cargos to a safe location, especially drums.
- Oil transfer terminals not engaged in transfer operations should drain all loading arms and hoses of product, blank off hoses, and empty/clean small discharge containment.
- Mooring lines doubled up with due consideration given to the effects of predicted storm surge.
- If moored, outboard anchor rigged at a short stay.
- Ensure sufficient number of officers and crew onboard to tend mooring lines, and/or get underway.
- Vessel ballasted to ensure maximum safety.
- All side ports, hatches, portholes, and other openings are closed and secured.
- All fire fighting equipment is ready for immediate use.
- A continuous radio watch maintained on Channel 16 and 67 VHF-FM.
- If at anchorage, at least two anchors set.
- If at anchorage, vessels should remain ready to get underway within 15 minutes.
- Spare mooring lines and/or wires should be readily available.

You are strongly encouraged to review your existing hurricane plan or develop a plan if you do not have one. It is extremely important to decide in advance how to minimize your risk and be prepared to evacuate, if necessary.

Marine Safety Office New Orleans: (504) 589-6196

Marine Safety Office Morgan City: (985) 380-5320

Integrated Command Center (24 Hour): (504) 846-5923/5924

Vessel Traffic Center (24 Hour): (504) 589-2780 or VHF-FM channels 16 or 67

National Response Center (24 Hour): 1-800-424-8802